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Inside:



Superman

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REDAN I LOVE TO READ™

BATMAN AND SUPERMAN™



Welcome to another issue of **I LOVE TO READ BATMAN AND SUPERMAN.**

This month we start with the exciting comic strip story *The Hunter—The Hunted*. **Batman** must confront the frightening **Killer Croc** in a disused oil depot in order to protect the men who work there. However, the story takes many unexpected twists and turns—whose side will **you** be on in the end?

In the story *Ground Zero*, Earth is threatened when a meteor is spotted heading straight towards it. The only man in the world who can possibly save the planet is **Superman**. This race against time will have you on the edge of your seat waiting to find out what happens!

There's also a great **COMPETITION** in which you have the chance to win one of **10** fabulous **JET TURBO REBOUND 4x4** radio controlled toy cars we have just waiting to be won!

Find out all about Killer Croc in this month's villain profile, and be sure to do all the puzzles in the Batman and Superman workbook in the centre of the comic. All this and more is waiting for you on the following pages—so read on, enjoy yourself, and see you next month.



This magazine has been made with the soft wood pulp from sustainably managed forests. For every tree cut down at least one more is planted.

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BATMAN

IN

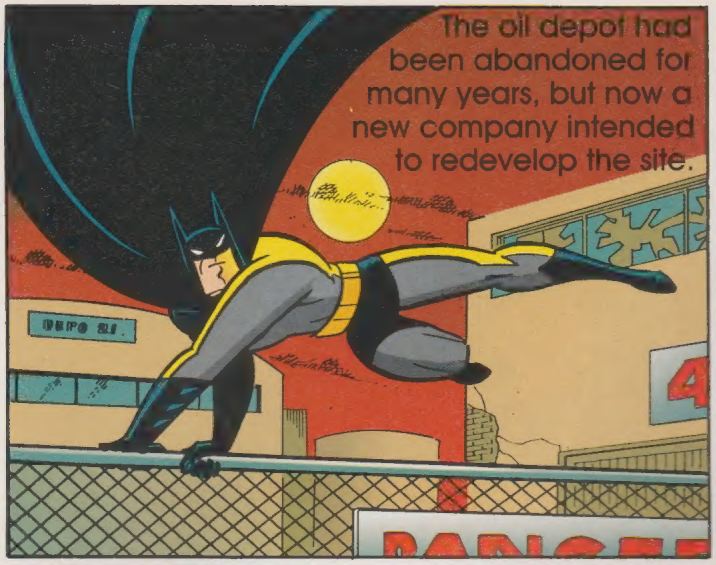
THE HUNTER THE HUNTED

Something was lurking beneath the old Murphy Oil Depot in Gotham City's Riverside district. Something monstrous that hid from daylight.

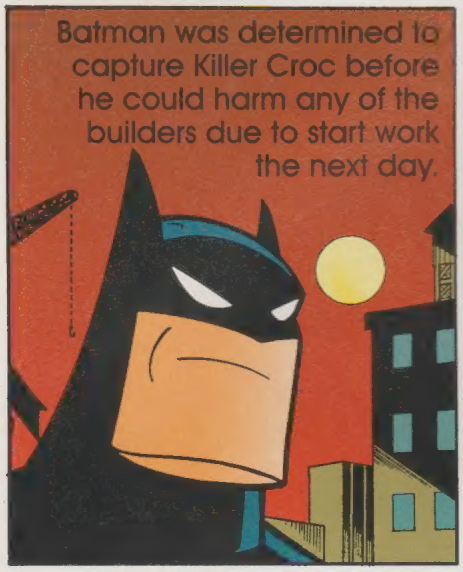
Its name was **Killer Croc**.

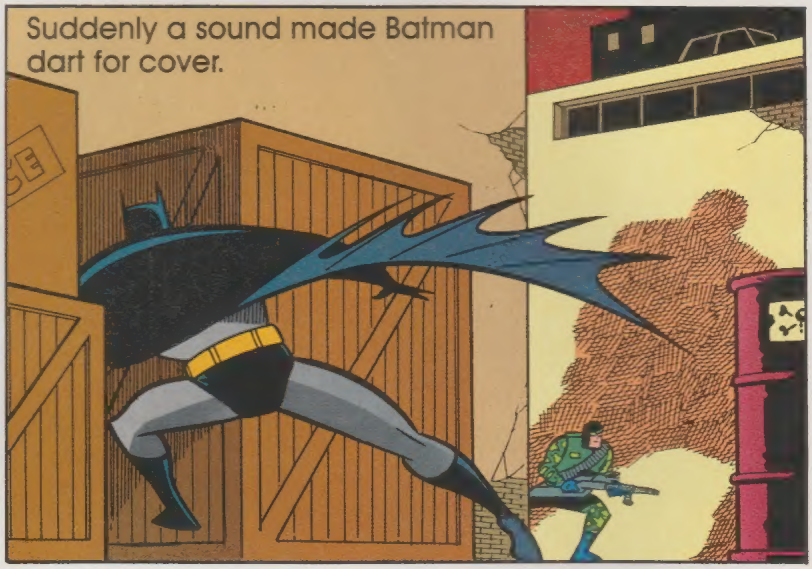


BATMAN created by Bob Kane Story: Dan Abnett Art: Jimmy Hansen Colours: Robin Smith


The oil depot had been abandoned for many years, but now a new company intended to redevelop the site.

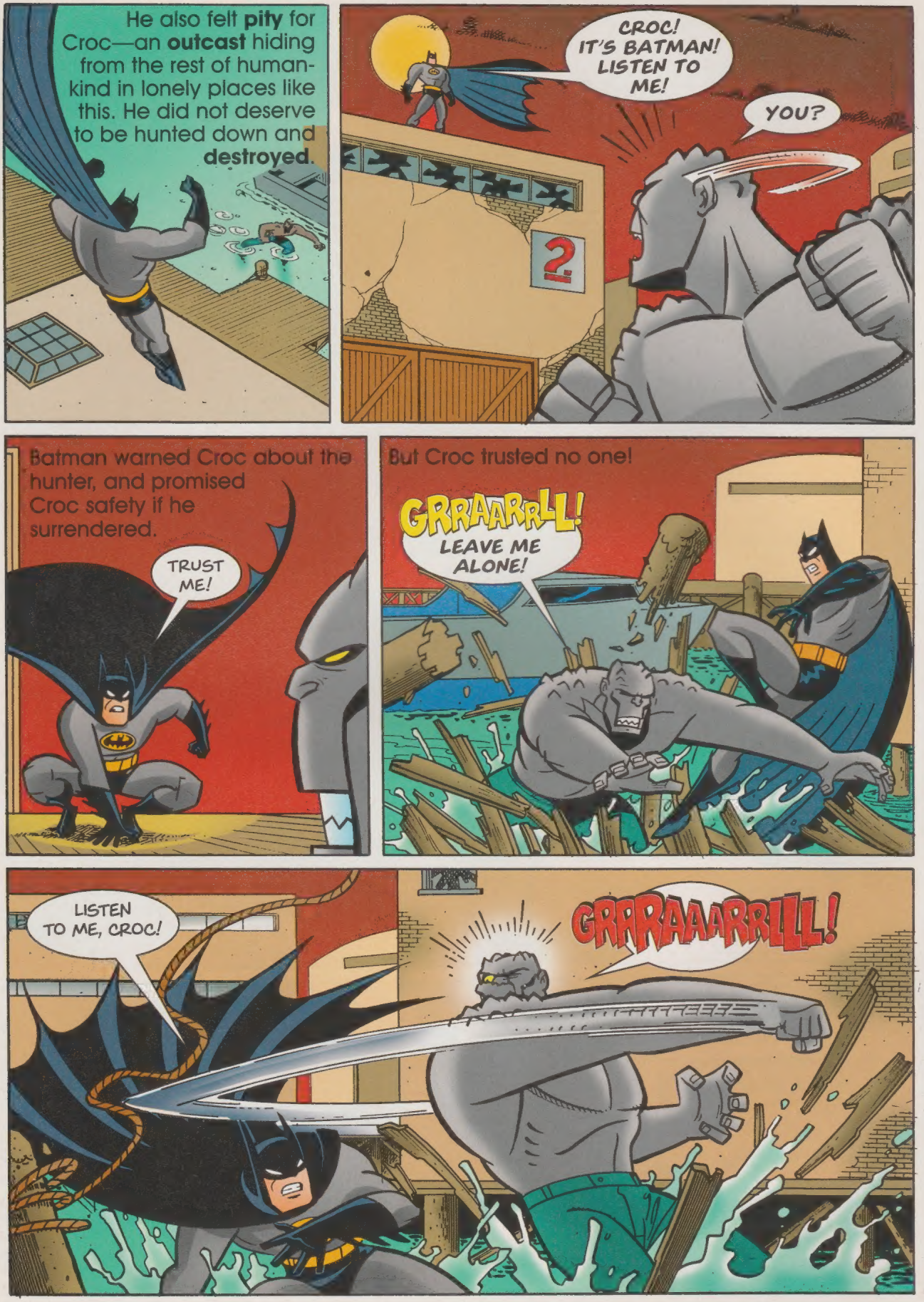

There had been reports of a monster lurking in the empty buildings—from the description, Batman knew it could only be one person.


Batman was determined to capture Killer Croc before he could harm any of the builders due to start work the next day.


Suddenly a sound made Batman dart for cover.


WHO ARE YOU?
WELL, WELL. THE MIGHTY BATMAN!
MY NAME'S STRIKER.

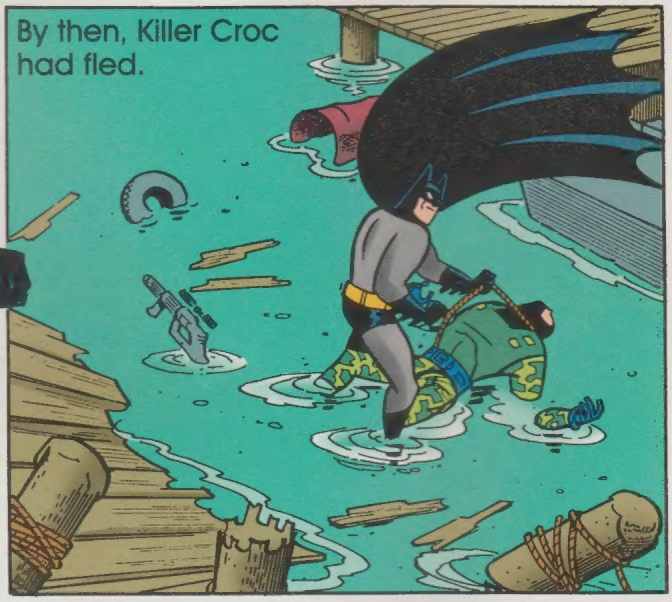

Striker told Batman he was an expert hunter, hired by the developers to track down Killer Croc.
DON'T GET IN MY WAY NOW! THAT BEAST IS WORTH A POT OF GOLD TO ME!
Batman was angry. Killer Croc was a dangerous criminal, but he was also human.
YOU'VE GOT NO RIGHT TO HUNT HIM LIKE AN ANIMAL.
HA HA HA! I TOLD YOU NOT TO GET IN MY WAY, BATMAN!
ZAMMM!
ZAMM!
It had become a race against time for the Dark Knight. He knew only too well how dangerous Killer Croc could be.

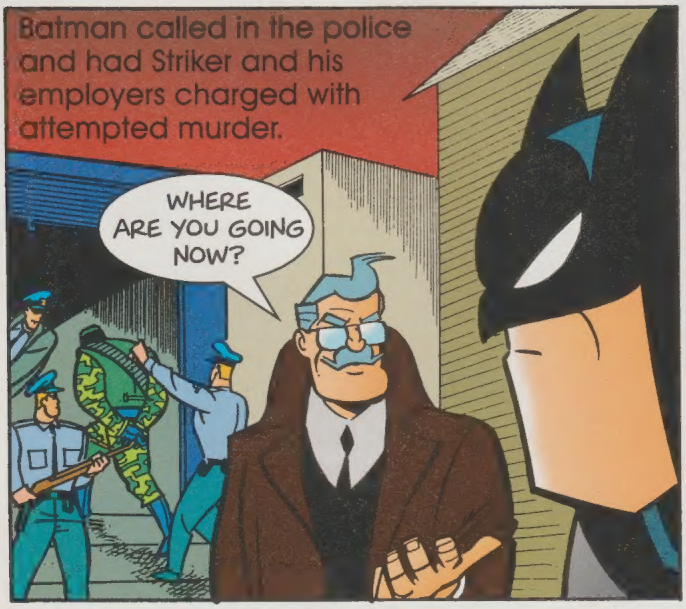

He also felt **pity** for Croc—an **outcast** hiding from the rest of humankind in lonely places like this. He did not deserve to be hunted down and **destroyed**.
CROC! IT'S BATMAN! LISTEN TO ME!
YOU?
2
Batman warned Croc about the hunter, and promised Croc safety if he surrendered.
TRUST ME!
But Croc trusted no one!
GRRAARRLL!
LEAVE ME ALONE!
LISTEN TO ME, CROC!
GRRRAAAARRLLL!


I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU!
KRAK!
ROWRRLL!
WHUNNKK!
Suddenly, laser beams cut out of the night...
FASSSH!
FASSSH!
SMILE, CROCODILE! I'VE GOT YOU IN MY SIGHTS!
SALE
WHAMM!!


Batman had ruined Striker's shot. The hunter was enraged.
YOU'VE COST ME PLENTY!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT, BAT-BRAIN!
13


WHAK K!
WE'LL SEE!


By then, Killer Croc had fled.

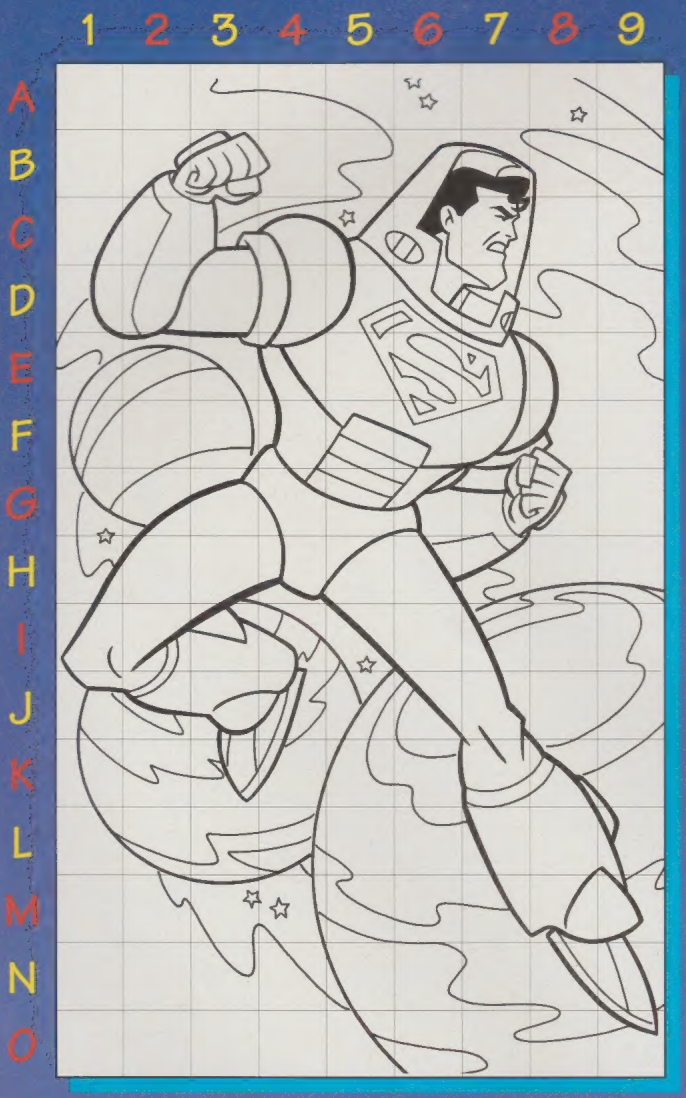

Batman called in the police and had Striker and his employers charged with attempted murder.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING NOW?


BACK TO WORK.
I HAVE TO CAPTURE CROC—MY WAY!

THE END

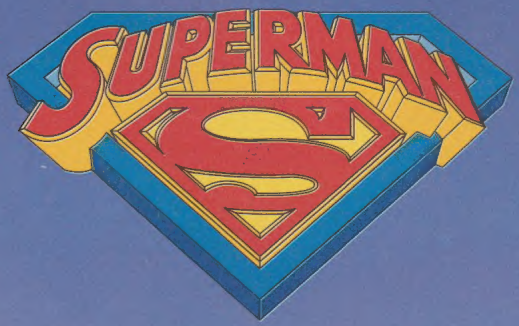
DRAW SUPERMAN

Here's a way to draw your own picture of Superman in his space suit from the story *Ground Zero*. Copy the picture from the grid on the left using the number and alphabet references, and duplicate the image of Superman onto the grid on the right.









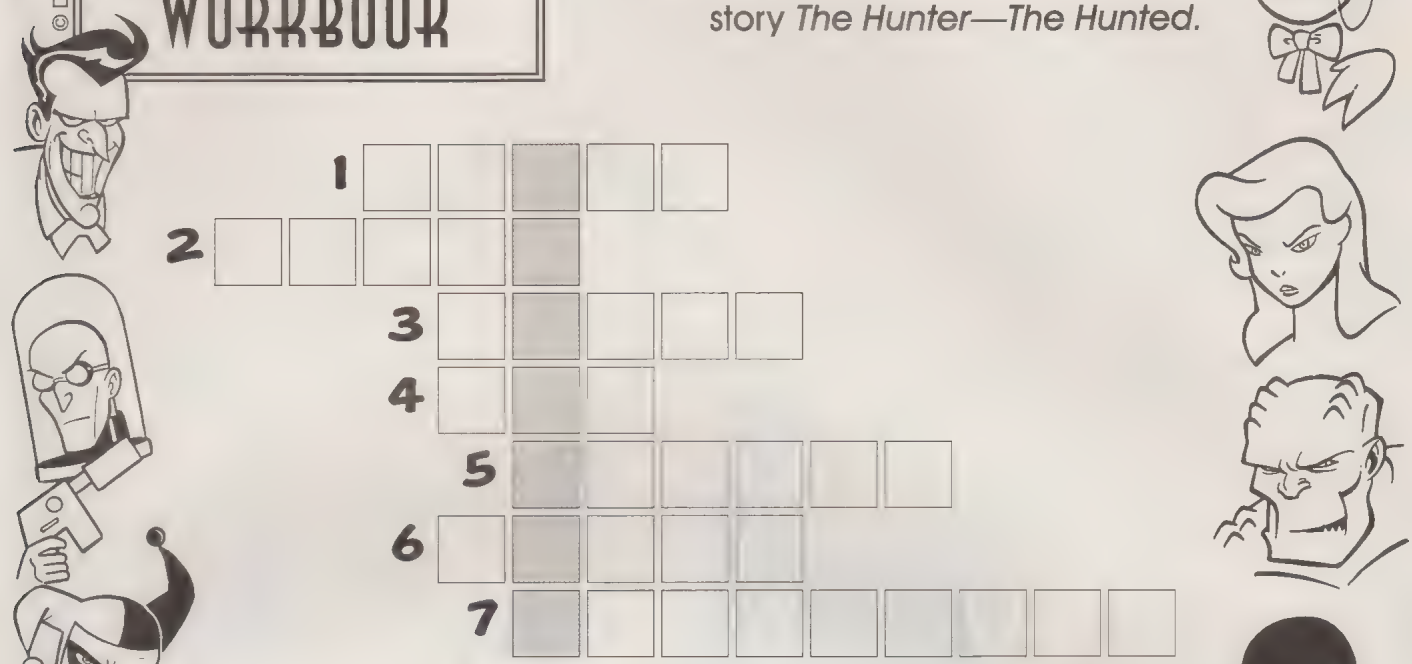
© DC Comics 1997, 1993. All Rights Reserved Art: Mike Parobeck and Rick Burchett

BATMAN AND SUPERMAN COLOURING AND WORKBOOK

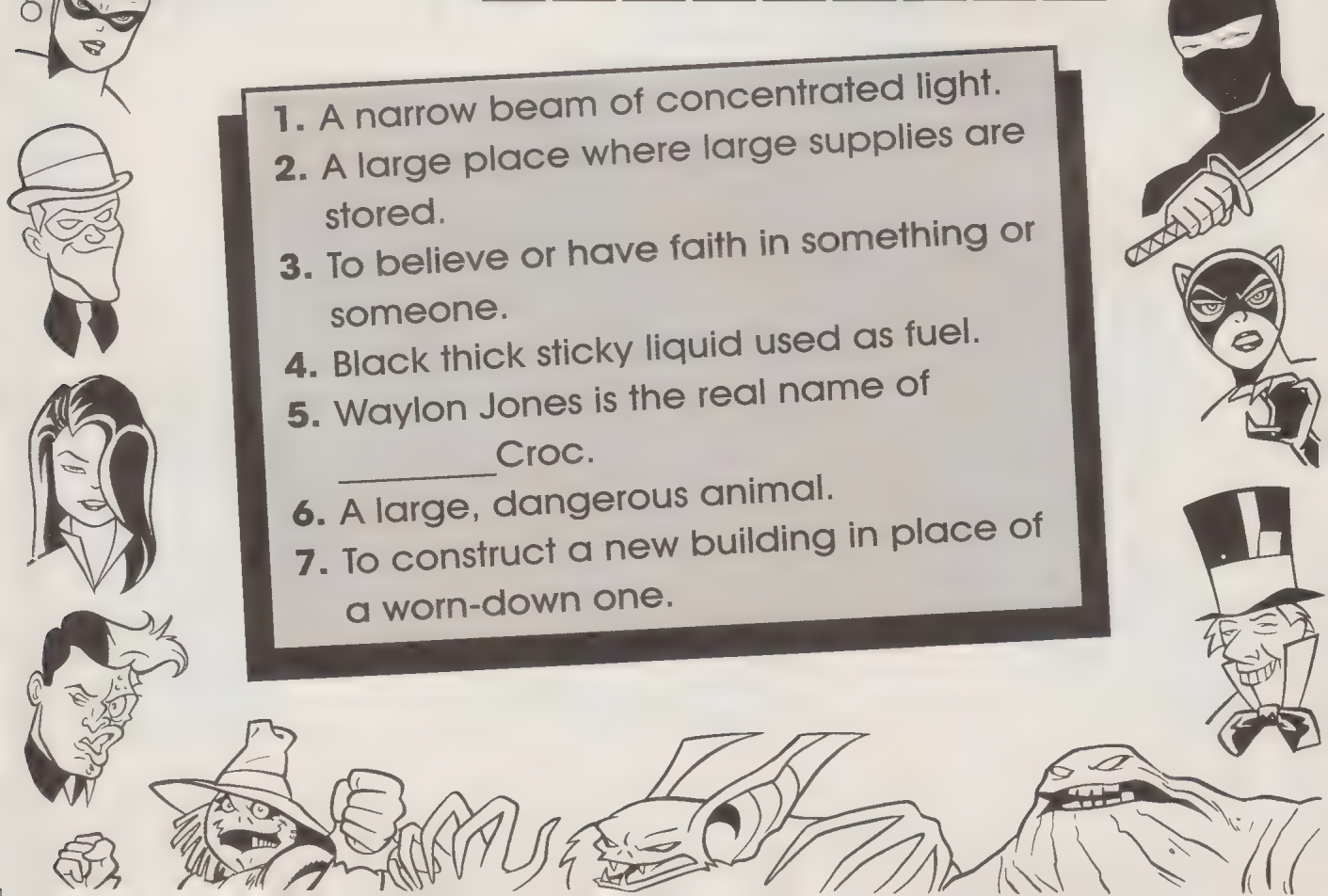
© DC Comics 1997

WHO'S HIDDEN?

Write the correct answers to the clues in the small boxes. The letters in the shaded boxes will reveal the name of a dangerous hunter. All the words used come from the story *The Hunter—The Hunted.*



1. A narrow beam of concentrated light.
2. A large place where large supplies are stored.
3. To believe or have faith in something or someone.
4. Black thick sticky liquid used as fuel.
5. Waylon Jones is the real name of _____Croc.
6. A large, dangerous animal.
7. To construct a new building in place of a worn-down one.



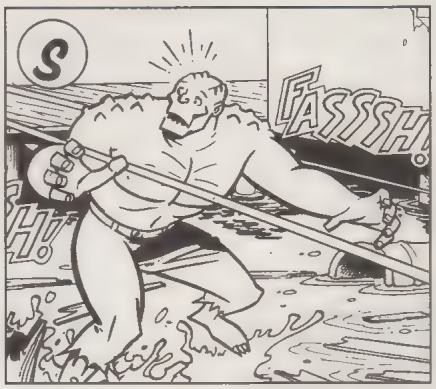
DOT TO DOT

Join all the dots in order to reveal who is clutching Batman!

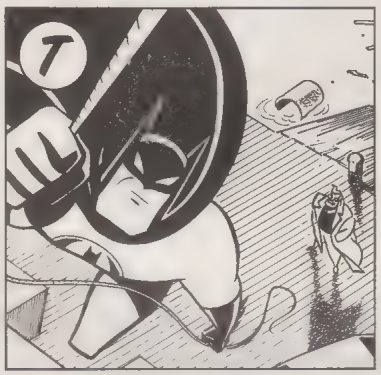


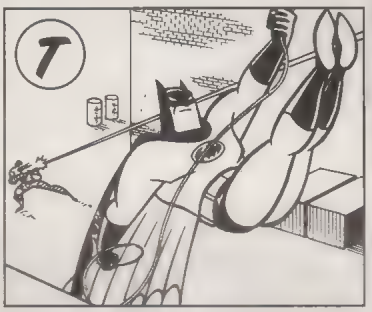
ALL MIXED UP

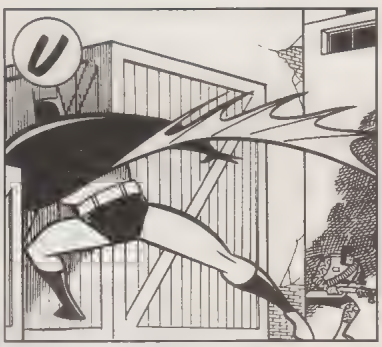
These pictures have been taken from this month's comic strip story. Put them in the **correct order (1-7)** and write the letter from each picture in the boxes below to find a word used in the story.

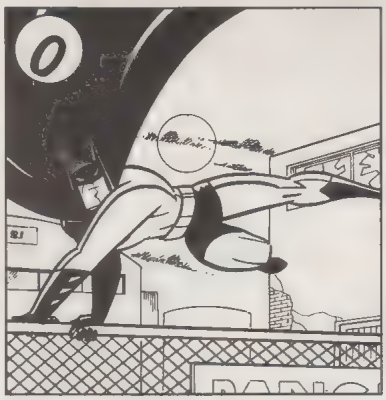


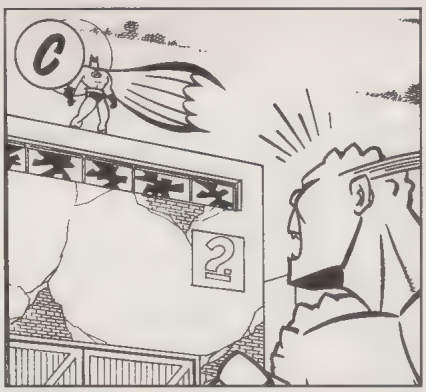










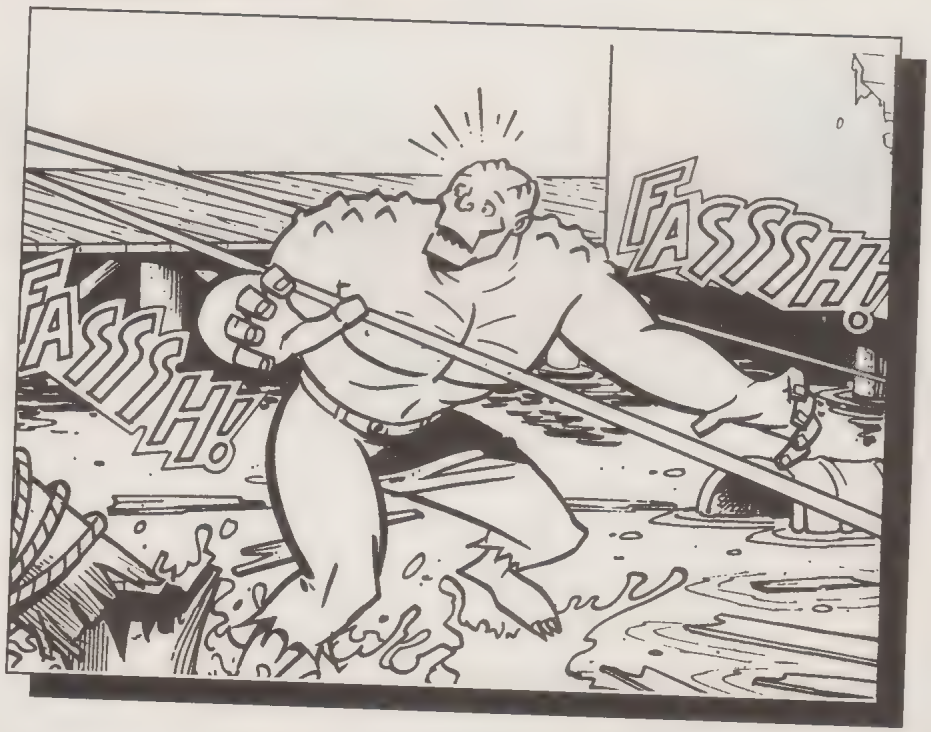


1	2	3	4	5	6	7

RHYMING WORDS

In the story *The Hunter—the Hunted*, the bounty hunter, Striker, carries a weapon that shoots laser beams—powerful rays of light. The answers to the clues below rhyme with the word BEAM. See how many you can solve and write the answers in the spaces provided.

1. A group who works together : _ _ _ _
2. A small river : _ _ _ _ _ _
3. The wife of a king : _ _ _ _ _
4. Without much fat : _ _ _ _
5. Imaginary thoughts while you sleep : _ _ _ _ _
6. Hot water gas : _ _ _ _ _
7. A loud shrill noise : _ _ _ _ _ _
8. Not nice : _ _ _ _
9. A type of vegetable : _ _ _ _
10. A long thick bar of wood : _ _ _ _
11. Thick fatty liquid made from milk : _ _ _ _ _
12. To give the impression of : _ _ _ _



ANAGRAMS

How many words of three letters or more can you make from the long words listed below? They all come from the story *The Hunter—The Hunted*. Some examples have been done for you already.

CAPTURE

TRUE

BUILDERS

BRIDE

DEVELOPERS

DROP

DANGEROUS

ANGER

ABANDONED

BAND

OUTCAST

CAT

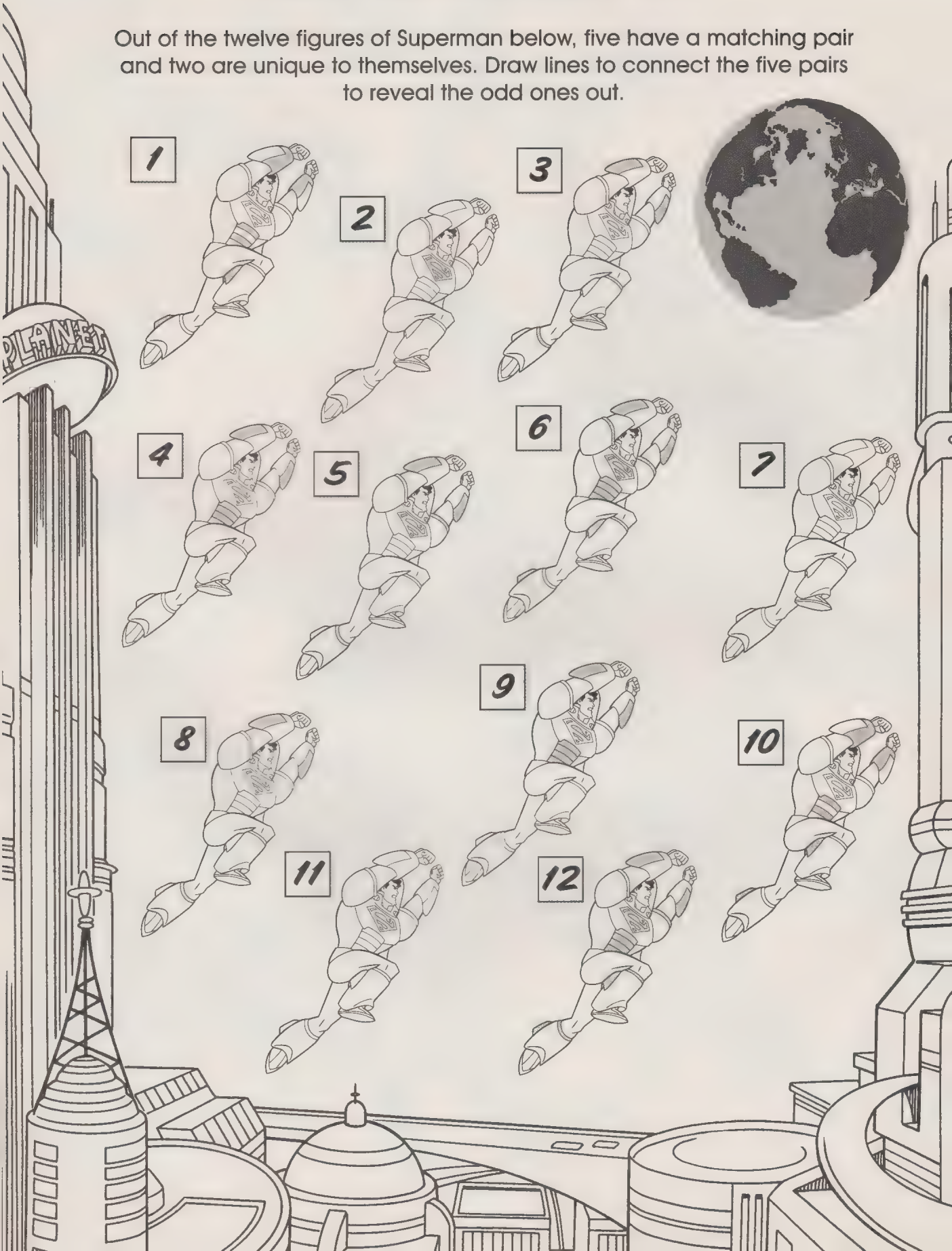
COLOURING

Colour in this exciting picture of Superman being blown away by the explosion in deep space.



FIND THE ODD ONES OUT

Out of the twelve figures of Superman below, five have a matching pair and two are unique to themselves. Draw lines to connect the five pairs to reveal the odd ones out.



SCRAMBLED PLANETS!

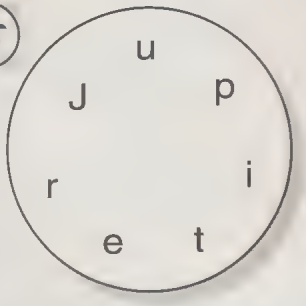
In the story *Ground Zero*, Superman has to go into outer space to save the planet Earth from being destroyed by a giant alien spaceship. The spaceship would have passed many stars and planets on its way towards Earth. There are nine planets in our solar system—do you know their names? Below, the names of the nine planets are scrambled up. Unscramble them and write their names correctly in the box below. But be careful—one of the names is not a planet. Do you know which one?

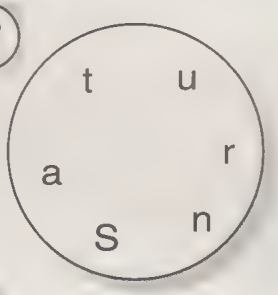
1 

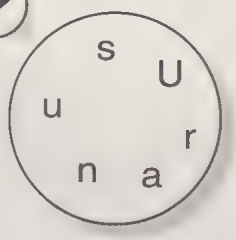
2 

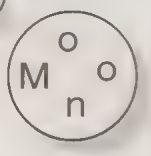
3 

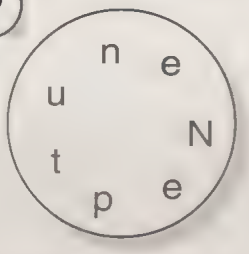
4 

5 

6 

7 

8 

9 

10 

1		6	
2		7	
3		8	
4		9	
5		10	

FIND THE FACT

Solve the eight clues and fit the answers into the grid below. If you solve all the clues correctly, by cross-referencing the letters at the top of the grid with the numbers down the side, you will find corresponding letters (e.g. B7=p, C2=n). Put the correct letters in the boxes at the bottom of the page to reveal an interesting fact.
All the words come from the story *Ground Zero.*

1. The act of travelling to one place from another.
2. Telescopic glasses.
3. Our planet.
4. The opposite of day.
5. Made of metal.
6. Not dark.
7. Vehicle for travelling through the universe.
8. This lights our solar system.



D3 G7 F1 A6 C7 I2 C4 E7 J2 C5 B7 F5 B3 E1 B5 C5

G5 C2 D2 F2 D1 J2 D2 F5 B3 C3

F7 G1 J2 D3 F1 A5

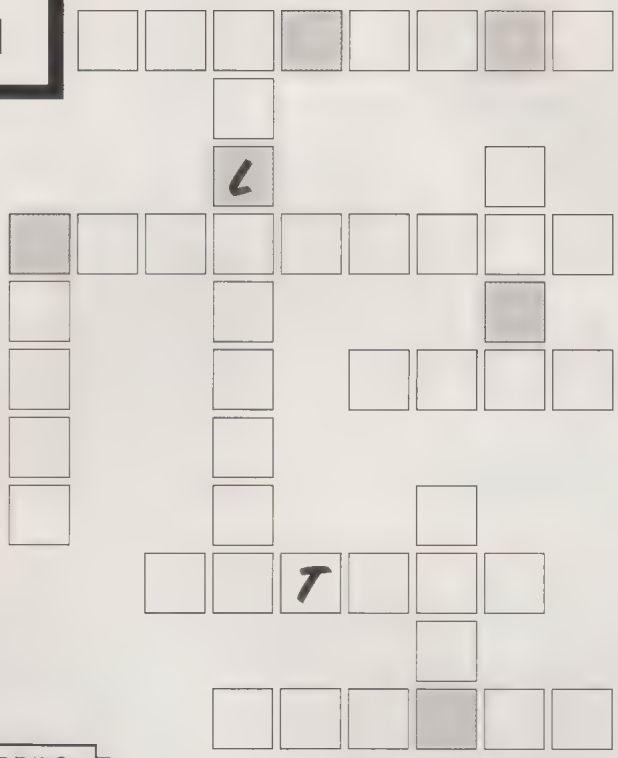
B6 A8 A1 B8 B7 H7 D3 B5 C3

FIT THEM IN

All the words in the boxes below come from the story *Ground Zero.* They all have something to do with astronomy, the study of outer space. See if you can fit them into the grid of squares correctly. When you have finished, unscramble the letters in the shaded boxes to reveal the name we give to beings from other planets!

4 LETTERS
STAR
MOON

6 LETTERS
METEOR
PLANET



5 LETTERS
SPACE
WORLD

8 LETTERS
ASTEROID

9 LETTERS
TELESCOPE
SATELLITE

The letters spell:

	L				

ANSWERS

WHO'S HIDDEN?

1 l a s e r
2 d e p o t
3 t r u s t
4 o i l
5 k i l l e r
6 b e a s t
7 r e d e v e l o p

ALL MIXED UP

O	U	T	C	A	S	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

ANAGRAMS

CAPTURE:
TRUE, RAT, TAPE, CAP, PURE
BUILDERS:
BRIDE, SLIDE, RED, BLUE
DEVELOPERS:
DROP, ROSE, LOVE, ROPE, EVE
DANGEROUS:
ANGER, SOUR, GRAND, READ
ABANDONED:
BAND, BONDED, DONE, AND
OUTCAST:
CAT, TOAST, COAST, STOUT

RHYMING WORDS

1. Team
2. Stream
3. Queen
4. Lean
5. Dream
6. Steam
7. Scream
8. Mean
9. Bean
10. Beam
11. Cream
12. Seem

FIND THE ODD ONES OUT

1=10, 2=11,
3=8, 4=9, 6=12
7 and 5 don't
have pairs.

SCRAMBLED PLANETS

1 Mercury.....	6 Saturn.....
2 Venus.....	7 Uranus.....
3 Earth.....	8 Moon.....
4 Mars.....	9 Neptune.....
5 Jupiter.....	10 Pluto.....

The Moon is not a planet.

FIND THE FACT

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	j	o	u	r	n	e	y			
2	b	i	n	o	c	u	l	a	r	s
3	E	a	r	t	h					
4	n	i	g	h	t					
5	m	e	t	a	l	l	i	c		
6	l	i	g	h	t					
7	s	p	a	c	e	s	h	i	p	
8	s	u	n							

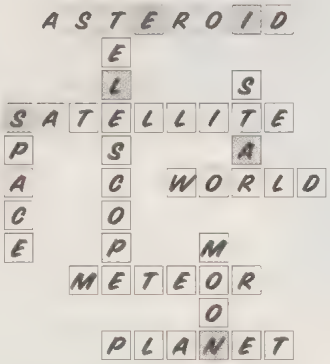
The largest planet
D3 G7 F1 A6 C7 I2 C4 E7 J2 C5 B7 E5 D5 C8 F1 E4

in our solar
G5 C2 D2 F2 D1 J2 D2 F5 B3 C8

system
F7 G1 J2 D3 F1 A5

is Jupiter
B6 A8 A1 B8 B7 H7 D3 B5 C3

FIT THEM IN



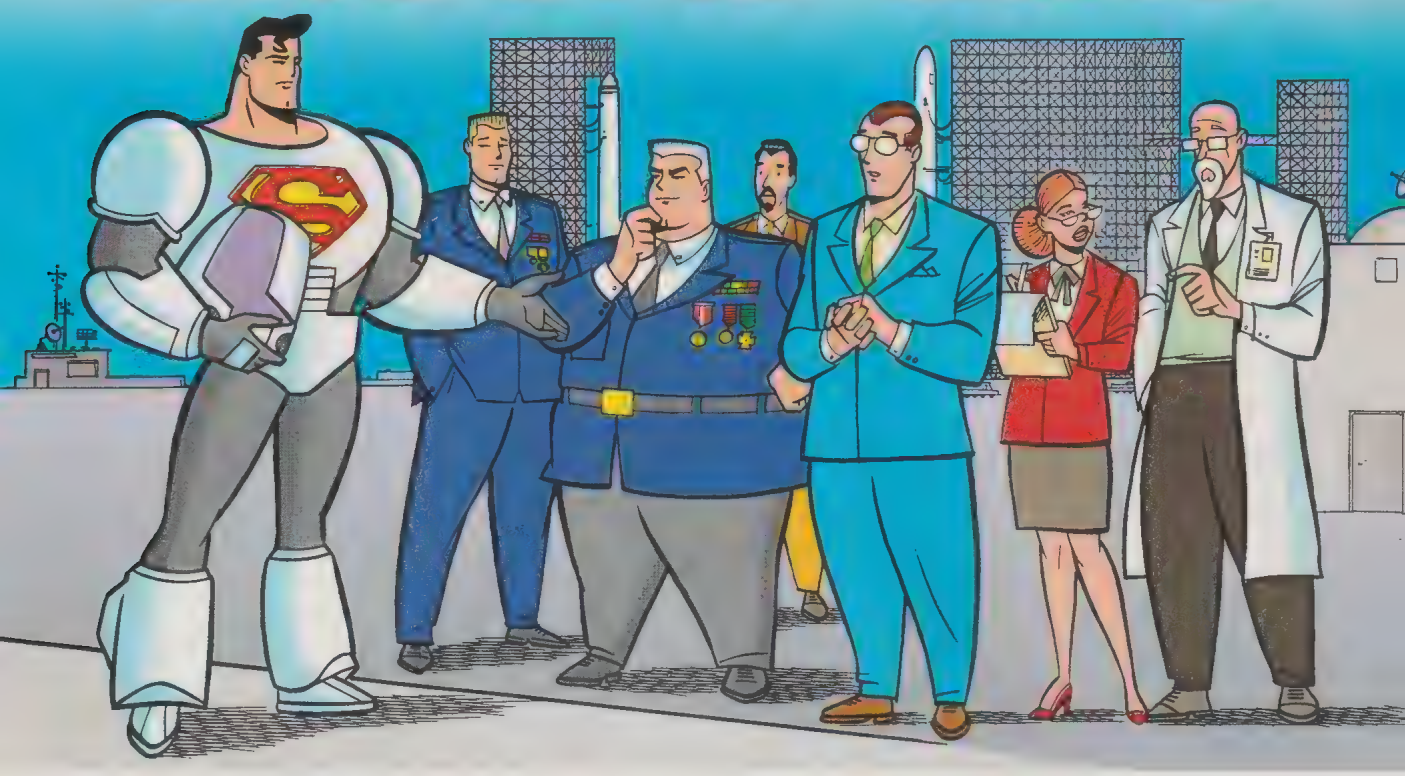
The letters spell:

A	L	I	E	N	S



Superman goes into space to save the world in...

GROUND ZERO



When it first appeared, it was a tiny pinprick of light on the world's most powerful deep space telescopes.

A week later, it was a fuzzy blur on the computer screens of the world's tracking stations.

Two days later, it was a brand new star that you could see at night with binoculars.

And the day after that, it was large enough to be seen with the naked eye...a bright new object the size of the moon, up in the night sky.

The news had gone around the world, a murmur that spread like wildfire from top secret research institutes and military headquarters to newsrooms and TV stations, and then to every person in every town in the world.

It was a meteor. A huge asteroid hurtling on a collision course with Earth.

In another two days the meteor would hit Earth—meaning the end of civilization as we know it.

Superman put on his special space suit. Ready for action, he stood on the launch ramp at Kennedy Space Centre. "I'll do what I can," he told the assembled party of generals and politicians. "If I can stop the meteor, change its course... destroy it even, I'll do so at once."

"Good luck," said one of the NASA experts, "you're going to need it. The meteor's huge. If it hits us, Earth will be destroyed."

SUPERMAN created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

Superman managed a grim smile. He knew they were all counting on him.

"There is a back-up plan if you can't do it, Superman," said General Byrne. "We are prepared to launch nuclear missiles from our satellite facilities, together with Russia and China. The combined warheads should destroy the asteroid. But it won't be in range for another six hours."

"By which time, it may be too late," the NASA expert added. "If it gets that close, we may blow it apart and still be bombarded with fragments."

"I'll make sure it doesn't come to that," Superman said as he secured his helmet and zoomed into the sky.

Three hours later he was bulleting through space towards the huge asteroid. It was even bigger than he had imagined, a rough cube of rock, several miles in diameter.

He flew in close and put his shoulder to the cool, gritty surface. He knew his heat vision was useless next to something this size; he couldn't blow it apart, or smash it into pieces. Not if it could survive in deep space for as long as it had. The most he could hope for was to knock it off its current course so that it would spin past the Earth without a collision.

Superman gritted his teeth and pushed harder and harder...he pushed as hard as he could but the asteroid would not be turned from its path. If he was shifting it at all, he thought it was by inches at best.

Superman tried to get a better grip on the rough surface. That was when he found the rivets. He scraped away the surface debris and realised that under the caked on grime there was a smooth, metallic hull.

Amazed, he scanned it with his X-ray vision. In a moment he could see the awful truth. The asteroid was not a lump of rock. It was a space ship. Inside it were



thousands of aliens, frozen in suspended animation—perhaps ready to awaken when they reached their destination, Superman assumed.

As he scanned the interior of the huge ship, Superman realized that the aliens must have been frozen to survive the long journey through space to a new home, some new planet to colonise and settle on. Something must have knocked the ark-ship off course and now it was going to hit the Earth.

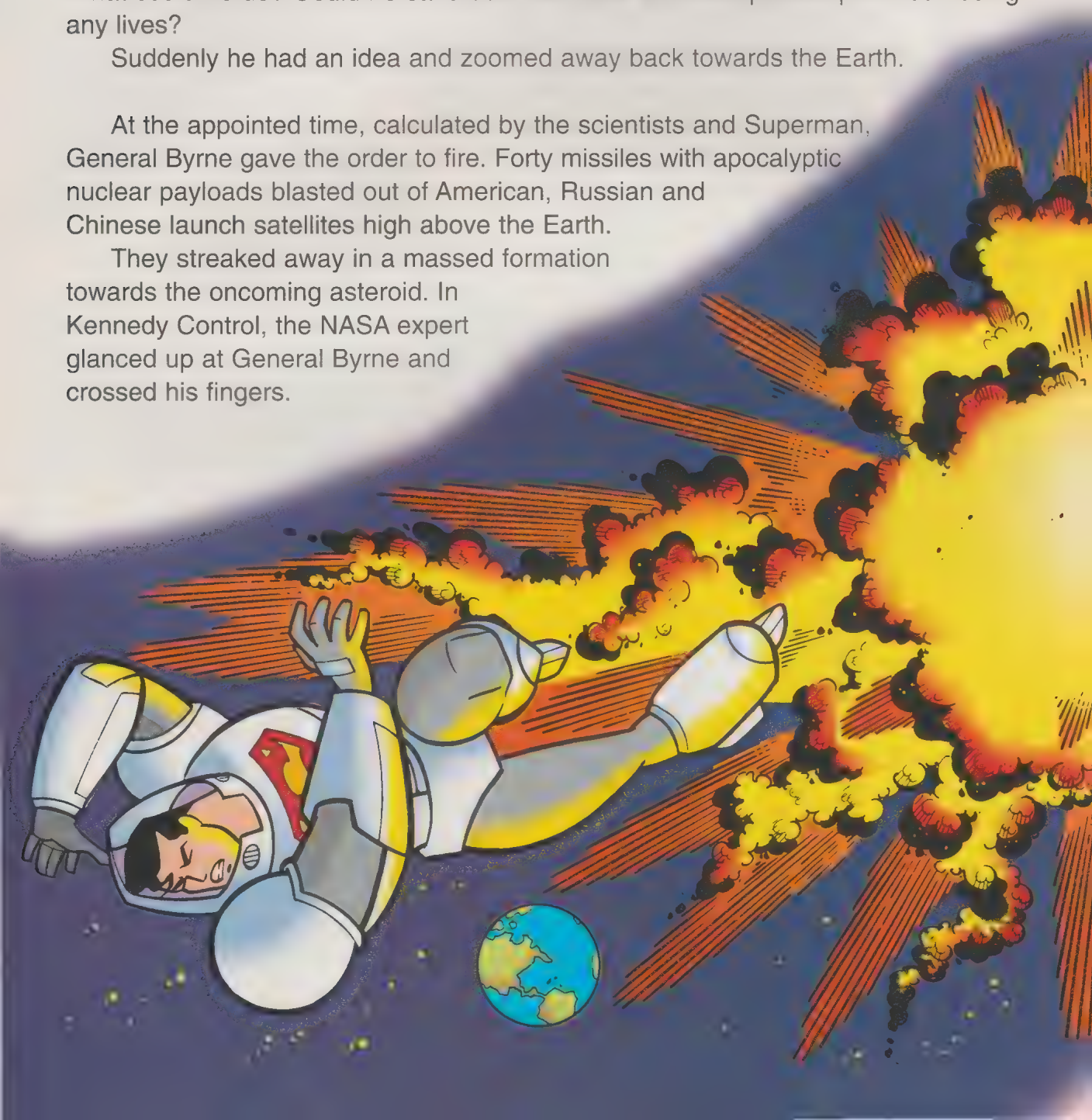
It was too much for him to deflect, so the only hope of saving the human race was to allow the nuclear missiles to destroy it. But if that happened, these mysterious alien travellers would perish.

Superman flew out, orbiting the huge rock as it thundered towards the Earth. What could he do? Could he save both the Earth and the spaceship without losing any lives?

Suddenly he had an idea and zoomed away back towards the Earth.

At the appointed time, calculated by the scientists and Superman, General Byrne gave the order to fire. Forty missiles with apocalyptic nuclear payloads blasted out of American, Russian and Chinese launch satellites high above the Earth.

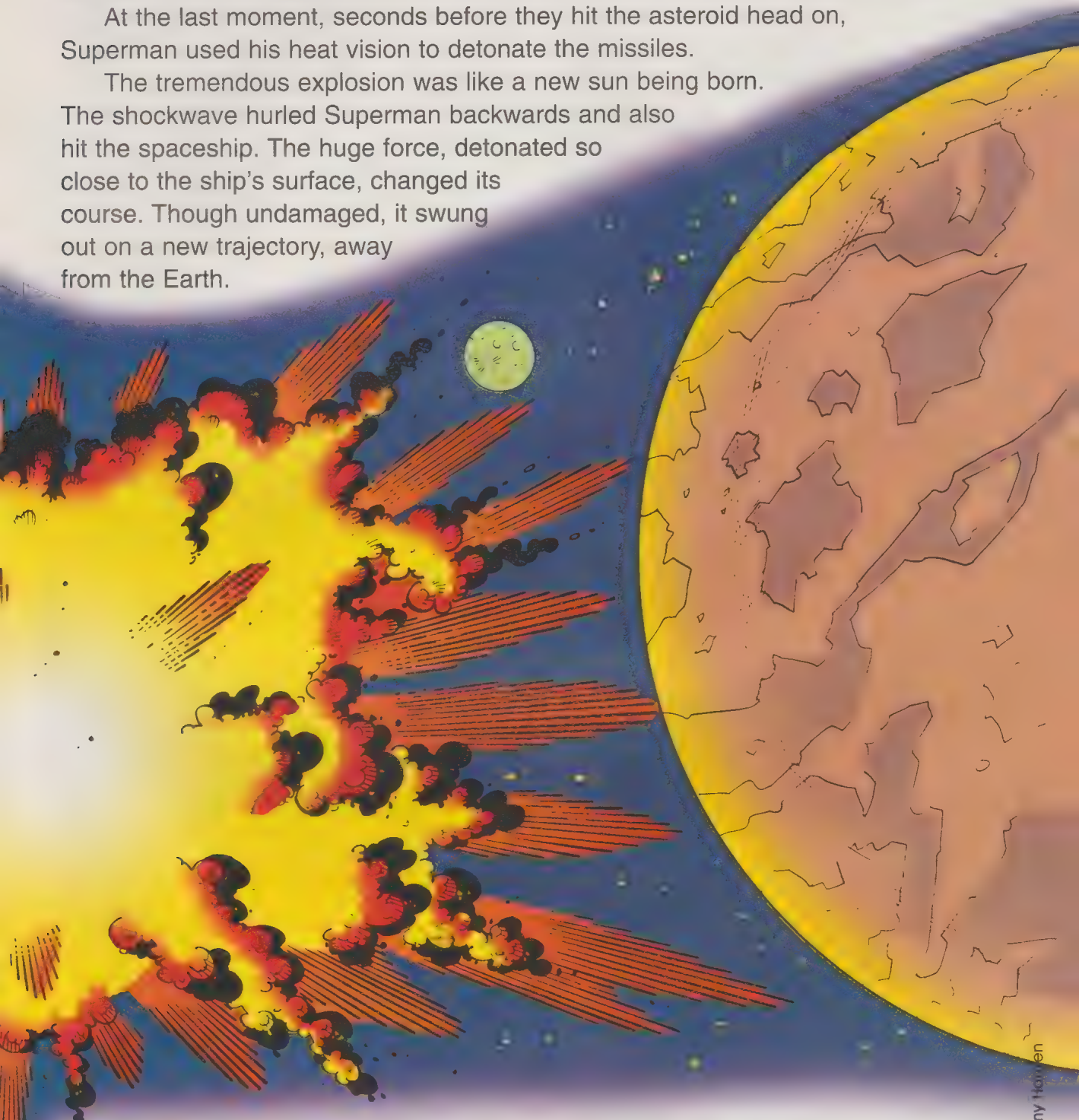
They streaked away in a massed formation towards the oncoming asteroid. In Kennedy Control, the NASA expert glanced up at General Byrne and crossed his fingers.



Superman saw the missiles roar past him and then quickly followed behind them as they streaked towards the huge spaceship. He had to time it perfectly—not too soon, not too late. He only had one chance and he needed maximum effect.

At the last moment, seconds before they hit the asteroid head on, Superman used his heat vision to detonate the missiles.

The tremendous explosion was like a new sun being born. The shockwave hurled Superman backwards and also hit the spaceship. The huge force, detonated so close to the ship's surface, changed its course. Though undamaged, it swung out on a new trajectory, away from the Earth.



Clearing his head, Superman realised with relief that the Earth was safe, and the alien ship was diverted. He watched it head off on its way, and checked its sleeping passengers with his X-ray vision. The aliens were unharmed, and the blast had also re-set the computer which was adjusting the ship's engines back on course.

"Good luck," he wished them, "wherever you end up."

THE END

Story: Dan Abnett, Art: Jimmy Holmen

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KILLER CROC™

VILLAIN PROFILE

Other Identity:
Waylon Jones
Occupation:
Criminal
Known Relatives:
None
Base of Operations:
Gotham City
Height: 6′ 5″
Weight: 121 kilos
Eyes: Red
Hair: None

Psychological profile:
Born a half-man, half-reptile mutant, his fearsome appearance and vicious strength earned Waylon Jones the name "Killer Croc". His alligator-like skin is virtually bullet-proof, and he possesses razor-sharp teeth and claws. A former sideshow attraction and professional wrestler, he soon turned to a life of crime, which brought him up against Batman. Hiding in the sewers and living more like an animal than a man, Croc is one of the Dark Knight's most powerful foes.

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aged 9 from Fenham



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BATMAN AND ROBIN by EDMUND CUTHBERT,
aged 7 from London



BATMAN
by HAYDEN WHEABLE,
aged 7 from Abingdon



BATMAN, MR FREEZE AND ROBIN
by DANIEL HUDDLESTONE, aged 5
from Middlesborough



HOT LINE

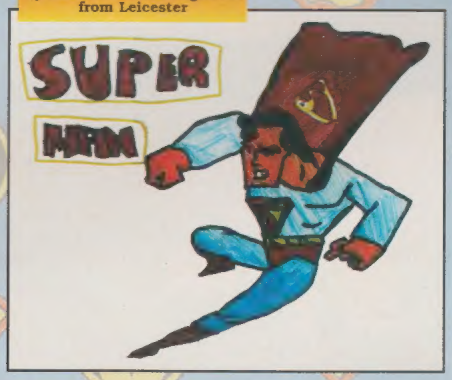
Every time I get my new issue, I go straight to the competition pages. Then I go to the villain profiles—I love to read the information they give me on the characters who join Batman and Superman in the comic strips. Sometimes I play as Batman and when I got my note book, I wrote a message to my mum!

From Michael Dudley
Derby



BATMAN
by ANDREW HALLAB

SUPERMAN
by LEWIS HUSSAIN, aged 10
from Leicester



SUPERMAN
by MATTHEW ADKIN,
aged 4 from BIRCHOVER





BILL CUNNINGHAM
from Blackford

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IN THE NEXT ISSUE

In the story *It's a Kind of Magic*, **Clark Kent** and **Lois Lane** go to report on the latest and most amazing magic show ever to come to Metropolis. However, things get very mixed up when the magician, having made Lois **disappear**, cannot make her **reappear**! Superman faces some really powerful magical goings-on when he comes to the rescue.

When an exhibition of cat paintings comes to Gotham City, **Batman** suspects that **Catwoman** will not be able to keep her paws off them! However, there are surprises in store for the Dark Knight when his suspicions appear to be completely wrong!

PLUS

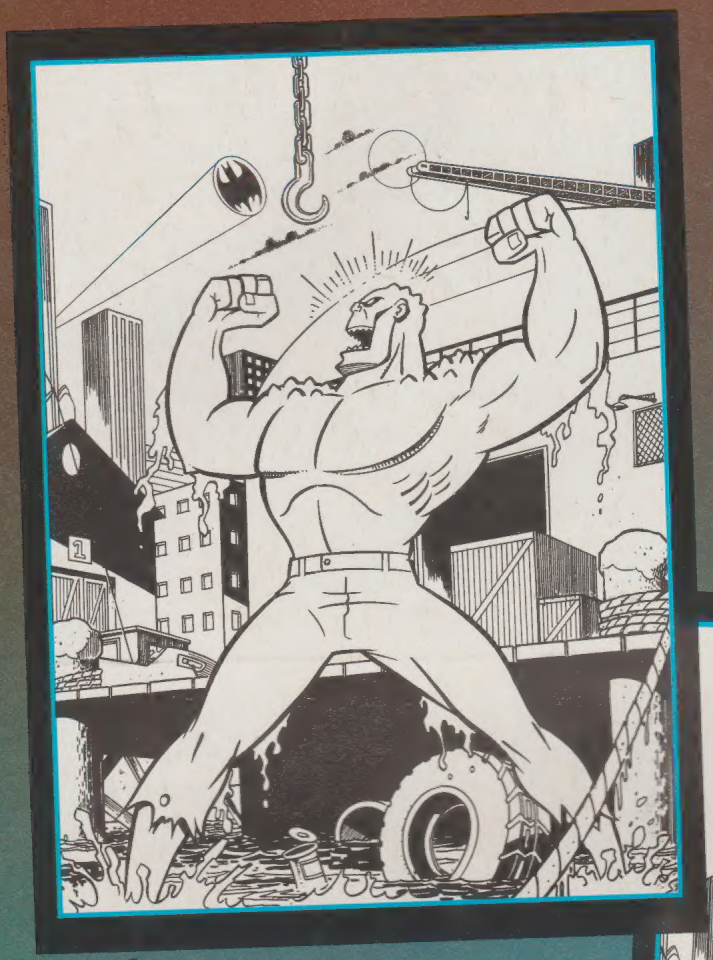
SUPERMAN STICKERS

A COMPETITION

AND LOTS MORE!

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the **10** differences between these two pictures of Killer Croc in the old Gotham City oil depot?







Answers: 1. The Bat-Signal is missing, 2. The chain at the top is shorter, 3. There are extra clouds in the sky, 4. The building behind the crane is missing, 5. Killer Croc's head has no bumps, 6. There is no water dripping from Croc's left arm, 7. Croc's belt is missing, 8. The rim on the tyre beneath Croc is missing, 9. The number "1" is missing from over the warehouse door, 10. The first floor windows are missing from the building behind the warehouse.